THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b) In addition to price support measures extended to copra (dried coconut) market intervention scheme is in operation in respect of potato and onion during 1990. Government have recently decided to extend the market intervention scheme to grapes. Under the market intervention scheme, NAFED and State Agencies undertake purchase operations of the commodities covered at intervention prices as a measure to help the farmers where the prices crash; losses in the operation are shared equally between the Centre and the State.

Repeal of the Delhi Rent Control Act

*151. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the members of the Society for fair laws and justice have protested against the existing rent control system and to repeal the Delhi Rent Control Act;

(b) if so, what were their precise demands; and

(c) what is Government's decision in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. (*See* below).

(c) Government is of the view that the Delhi Rent Control (Amendment) Act, 1988 should be given a fair trial.

The major demands of the Society for Fair Laws and Justice are as under:—

1. The Delhi Rent Control Act, 1958 should be repealed.

2. All agreements whether written or verbal should be registered with the Registrar to be appointed by the Central/State Government who should be fully authorised to implement the terms and conditions of the agreement word by word and should have powers to evict the tenants after the expiry of the term.

3. The basic rent should be redefined as the rent at which both the parties agree and which they incorporate in the tenancy agreement and such rent whether agreed upon verbally or in writing should not be changed or challenged in any court of law.

4. Standard rent even in respect of old buildings should be calculated at the rent of 15 per cent of the persent value of the land and the building.

5. The Rent Control Act should not apply to premises occupied by a single tenant or a family whose income from all sources exceeds Rs. 18,000 per annum.

6. The scope of Section 14C should be widened so as to include those employees who had retired a few years earlier, and the premises are constructed and let out after retirement but which may be needed for self use subsequently.

7. The existing provision of increase in rent after every 3 years should be replaced by a provision permitting annual increase in the rent which should be linked to the price index.

8. In cases where request for immediate eviction on the ground of self use is made, order for eviction should be passed straightway without calling upon the respondent to show case as to why such an order should not be passed.

9. Legal procedure should be implified and cases where residential premises are required for self use should be decided within 3 months.

Setting up of sugar mills in the country

*152. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state: